

Message Text

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ACTION SCCT-01

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FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

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INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

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NAVCOMUNIT ASMARA PRIORITY

NAVCOMSTA NEA MAKRI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR ET

SUBJ: CISCO TWO: CONVERSATION WITH NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSIONER

REF: STATE 186067 (NOTAL)

1. DCM AND POL COUNSELOR CALLED ON NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSIONER BG BERHANE TEFFERNA AUG 8. CONVERSATION LASTED 45 MINUTES. IN REVIEWING "CISCO TWO" ABDUCTION, EMBOFFS PLACED PARTICULAR EMPHASIS ON (A) EPMG'S RESPONSIBILITIES; (B) IMPORTANCE OF SHARING AVAILABLE INTELLIGENCE; (C) IMPORTANCE WHICH USG CONTINUES TO ATTACH TO BROADCAST OVER EPMG FACILITIES OF FAMILY APPEALS (CF SEE REFTEL).

2. THE COMMISSIONER WAS MOST RESPONSIVE. HE FULLY AGREED ON HIS GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSIBILITY AND ASSURED EMBOFFS HE WOULD DO EVERYTHING IN HIS POWER TO MEET THEM. HE CALLED THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE IN CHARGE IN ERITREA ON THE TELEPHONE AND AFTER LENGTHY CONVERSATION. TOLD EMBOFFS THAT LATEST INFORMATION KNOWN TO LATTER, ALTHOUGH UNCONFIRMED, SUGGESTED THAT " CISCO TWO" MAYBE BEING TAKEN TOWARDS RED SEA COAST TO REPAIR REBEL RADIO WHILE ETHIOPIANS BEING DETAINED FOR COLLABORATION WITH AMERICANS.

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COMMISSIONER OFFERED PROVIDE EMBASSY WITH PERIODIC READOUTS

OF INTELLIGENCE REACHING HIM ON "CISCO TWO" INVESTIGATION, AN OFFER WHICH WAS GRATEFULLY ACCEPTED. HE CONFIRMED THAT MARTIAL LAW ADMINISTRATOR IN ERITREA AHD INSTRUCTED ALL MILITARY AND POLICE FORCES IN THE PROVINCE TO PURSUE THE SEARCH.

3. COMMENT: EMBASSY IS OF VIEW THAT UNCONFIRMED REPORT TO WHICH COMMISSIONER ALLUDED IS OLD INTELLIGENCE (RF ASMARA'S 625) AND HAS BEEN OVERTAKEN BY SUSEQUENT INDICATIONS SUGGESTING CISCO TWO ARE MOVING INTO REBEL CONTROLLED NORTHEASTERN ERITREA.
HUMMEL

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